

Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

What is claimed is:

1 - 14, (Withdrawn)

15. (Presently amended): A virtual private supply chain computer system as between two or more supply chain members, comprising:

a data acceptor operable to receive one or more supply chain data items from one or more supply chain members;

a supply chain data store operable to store one or more supply chain data items received from one or more supply chain members storing the supply chain data items to conformed supply chain data with one or more common schema;

a data accessor operable to implement row-level supply chain security to selectively present one or more supply chain data items stored in the supply chain data store to one or more viewing supply chain members selectively permitting access to the conformed supply chain data based on the row-level security applied to the conformed supply chain data; and

a component that establishes one or more relationships within the supply chain data store between a first supply chain data item originating from a first supply chain member and one or more second supply chain items originating from one or more second supply chain members.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously presented): The virtual private supply chain of claim 15 where an ownership identifier is established within the supply chain data store for one or more supply chain data items.

18. (Original): The virtual private supply chain of claim 17 where the supply chain data store is further adapted to facilitate establishing one or more access rights to supply chain data items.

19. (Presently amended): The virtual private supply chain of claim 18 where the data acceptor is further adapted to transform the received supply chain data formatted according to a proprietary vendor schema converted to a virtual private supply chain (VPSC) schema to conform with one or more supply chain schema to facilitate collaborative, real-time exchange of supply chain data between multiple enterprises.

20. (Original): The virtual private supply chain of claim 19 where the data acceptor is further adapted to validate the transformed supply chain data.

21. (Original): The virtual private supply chain of claim 20 where the data acceptor is further adapted to load the validated supply chain data into the supply chain data store.

22. (Presently amended): The virtual private supply chain of claim ~~[[21]]~~ 15 where the data accessor implements the row-level supply chain security to prevent the first supply chain member from viewing a row of data originating from the one or more second supply chain members.

23. (Presently amended): The virtual private supply chain of claim 22 where the row-level supply chain security employs at least one of menu level security limiting what menus the one of the supply chain members can view, secure socket layers (SSL), digital certificates and encryption.

24. (Original): The virtual private supply chain of claim 15 where the one or more supply chain members are configured in a hub and spoke configuration, with the supply chain members located at spokes and at least one of the data acceptor, the data accessor and the supply chain data store located at the hub.

25. (Original): The virtual private supply chain of claim 24 where at least one supply chain member implements a connection stream.

26. (Original): The virtual private supply chain of claim 25 where the connection stream is adapted to facilitate making communications between the hub and the spoke implementing the connection appear as a stream.

27. (Original): The virtual private supply chain of claim 26 where the connection stream is further adapted to facilitate sending, receiving and/or validating BIO's.

28. (Original): The virtual supply chain of claim 27 where the connection stream is further adapted to facilitate selecting an encryption level to be applied to data communicated between the hub and the spoke implementing the connection stream.

29. (Original): The virtual private supply chain of claim 24 where one or more supply chain data items may be persisted at one or more spokes.

30. (Original): The virtual private supply chain of claim 29 where the persisted items are stored as BLOBS (Binary Large Objects).

31. (Presently amended): A computer readable medium storing computer executable components of a virtual private supply chain comprising:

 a data accepting component operable to receive one or more supply chain data items from one or more supply chain members;

 a supply chain data storing component operable to facilitate storing of one or more supply chain data items received from one or more supply chain members and

storing the supply chain data items to conformed supply chain data with one or more common schema;

a data accessing component operable to implement row-level supply chain security to selectively present one or more supply chain data items stored by the supply chain data storing component to one or more viewing supply chain members selectively permitting access to the conformed supply chain data based on the row-level security applied to the conformed supply chain data; and

a supply chain data storing component operable to establish one or more relationships within the supply chain data store between a first supply chain data item originating from a first supply chain member and one or more second supply chain data items originating from one or more second supply chain members.

32. (Previously presented): A computer implemented method for providing a virtual private supply chain between two or more supply chain members, the method comprising the following computer executable acts:

- centralizing supply chain data from a plurality of supply chain members;
- conforming the supply chain data to one or more common schema;
- selectively permitting access to the conformed supply chain data based on row-level security applied to the conformed supply chain data; and
- establishing one or more relationships within the supply chain data store between a first supply chain data item originating from a first supply chain member and one or more second supply chain data items originating from one or more second supply chain members.

33. (Previously presented): A computer implemented method for providing a virtual private supply chain between two or more supply chain members, the method comprising the following computer executable acts:

- accepting one or one or more supply chain data items from one or more supply chain members;
- establishing one or more ownership identifiers for the supply chain data items;
- establishing one or more access permissions for the supply chain data items;

transforming the supply chain data items to conform with one or more supply chain schema;

validating the transformed supply chain data items;

storing the validated supply chain data items in a supply chain data store;

establishing one or more relationships within the supply chain data store between supply chain data items received from two or more supply chain members; and

selectively permitting access to one or more supply chain data items based on at least one of the ownership of the supply chain data item, the one or more relationships associated with the supply chain data items, and the one or more access permissions associated with the supply chain data items.

34. (Original): A computer readable medium storing computer executable instructions operable to perform the method of claim 33.

35 - 36. (Withdrawn)

37. (Previously presented): A computer implemented method for providing a virtual private supply chain between two or more supply chain members, the method comprising the following computer executable acts:

means for collecting supply chain data from a plurality of supply chain members;

means for standardizing the collected supply chain data to one or more supply chain schema;

means for securely accessing the collected supply chain data; and

means for establishing within a supply chain data store one or more relationships between a first supply chain data item originating from a first supply chain member and one or more second supply chain data items originating from one or more second supply chain members.